

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

ROY MUNN, Individually,	:	
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	
v.	:	Case No. 4:21-cv-276
	:	
PRAPTI SHETH INVESTMENTS, LLC	:	
A Domestic Limited Liability Company	:	
	:	
Defendant.	:	
<hr/>		

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, Roy Munn (hereinafter “Plaintiff”), hereby sues the Defendant, Prapti Sheth Investments, LLC, a Domestic Limited Liability Company (hereinafter jointly referred to as “Defendant”), for Injunctive Relief, and attorney’s fees, litigation expenses, costs and damages pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12181 et seq. (“ADA”). In support thereof, Plaintiff states:

1. This action is brought by Roy Munn, pursuant to the enforcement provision of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (“ADA”), 42 U.S.C. 12188(a) against the owners and/or operators of Thunderbolt Convenience Store.
2. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to the following statutes:

a. 28 U.S.C. §1331, which governs actions that arise from the Defendant's violations of Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12181 et seq. See also 28 U.S.C. §2201 and §2202.

b. 28 U.S.C. §1331, which gives District Courts original jurisdiction over civil actions arising under the Constitution, laws or treaties of the United States; and

c. 28 U.S.C. §1343 (3) and (4), which gives District Courts jurisdiction over actions to secure civil rights extended by the United States government.

3. Venue is proper in this judicial district and division. Defendant does business in the State of Georgia, and all of the acts of discrimination alleged herein occurred in this judicial district and division.

PARTIES

4. Plaintiff Roy Munn is a resident of Cherokee County, Georgia, ambulates with a cane, suffers from Parkinson's Disease and nerve damage, utilizes a service dog, and is an individual with a disability within the meaning of ADA, 42 U.S.C. 12102(2), 28 C.F.R. 36.104.

5. Plaintiff Roy Munn is substantially limited in performing one or more major life activities, including but not limited to, walking unassisted and standing for long periods.

6. Plaintiff Roy Munn has relatives that live in the area and frequently returns to visit them.

7. Plaintiff Roy Munn intends to visit family again in November 2021, wherein he desires to return to Defendant's property.

8. Plaintiff Roy Munn was a patron at Thunderbolt Convenience Store at 2301 E. Victory Drive, Savannah, GA, on July 20, 2021.

9. Thunderbolt Convenience Store is a place of public accommodation within the meaning of Title III of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. 12181, 28 C.F.R. 36.104.

10. Defendant owns, leases, leases to, or operates Thunderbolt Convenience Store, and is responsible for complying with the obligations of the ADA.

COUNT I

VIOLATION OF THE ADA

11. Plaintiff realleges paragraphs one (1) through ten (10) of this Complaint and incorporates them here as if set forth in full.

12. Plaintiff was a patron at Thunderbolt Convenience Store on or about July 20, 2021, accompanied with his service dog.

13. Plaintiff has definite plans to return the property again in November 2021, to avail himself of the goods and services offered to the public at the property but for the barriers in existence that deter him from doing so.

14. There are numerous architectural barriers present at Thunderbolt Convenience Store that prevent and/or restrict access by Plaintiff, in that several features, elements, and spaces of Thunderbolt Convenience Store are not accessible to or usable by Plaintiff, as specified in 28 C.F.R 36.406 and the Standards for Accessible Design, 28 C.F.R., Pt. 36, Appendix A (“the Standards”).

15. Plaintiff, upon visiting the property, personally suffered discrimination because of his disability.

16. There are several elements and spaces that Plaintiff personally encountered and which discriminated against him based upon his disability, such as:

a. There is an excessively steep slope that leads to the front door that creates a dangerous situation for a disabled individual.

b. The public restroom is not accessible to a disabled individual.

c. The door lock to the public restroom requires tight pinching and is inaccessible to a disabled individual.

d. There are no grab bars in the public restroom for a disabled individual to utilize.

e. There is no insulation around the hot water drain pipe in the public restroom which could cause a burning hazard to a disabled individual.

f. The flush valve is located on the incorrect side of the toilet so that a disabled individual is unable to utilize such.

17. The discriminatory violations described in paragraph 16 of this Complaint are not an exclusive list of the Defendants' ADA violations. The Plaintiff has been denied access to, and has been denied the benefits of, services, programs and activities of the Defendant's facilities, and has otherwise been discriminated against and damaged by the Defendant because of the Defendant's ADA violations, as set forth above.

18. The Plaintiff will continue to suffer such discrimination, injury and damage without the immediate relief provided by the ADA as requested herein. The Plaintiff has been denied access to, and has been denied the benefits of services, programs and activities of the Defendants' facilities, the opportunity to use such elements, and have otherwise been discriminated against and damaged by the Defendant because of the Defendant's ADA violations, as set forth above.

19. Plaintiff has standing to sue for any and every barrier to access for the mobility-impaired and for disabled individuals with service dogs that exists on the subject premises. Roy Munn has standing to require that all barriers to access on

the property for the mobility-impaired are corrected, not merely only those Roy Munn personally encountered.

20. Defendant is required to not discriminate against the physically disabled and to remove and correct any barriers to access when such removal is readily achievable for its place of public accommodation that have existed prior to January 23, 1992, 28 CFR 36.304(a); in the alternative, if there has been an alteration to Defendant's place of public accommodation since January 26, 1992, then the Defendant is required to ensure to the maximum extent feasible, that the altered portions of the facility are readily accessible to and useable by individuals with disabilities, including individuals who use wheelchairs, 28 CFR 36.402; and finally, if the Defendant's facility is one which was designed and constructed for first occupancy subsequent to January 26, 1993, as defined in 28 CFR 36.401, then the Defendant's facility must be readily accessible to and useable by individuals with disabilities as defined by the ADA.

21 The Defendant has discriminated against Plaintiff by denying him access to, and full and equal enjoyment of, the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages and/or accommodations of the buildings, as prohibited by 42 U.S.C. § 12182 et seq. and 28 CFR 36.302 et seq.

22. Defendant continues to discriminate against the Plaintiff by failing to make reasonable modifications in policies, practices or procedures, when such modifications are necessary to afford all offered goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages or accommodations to individuals with disabilities.

23. Roy Munn has a realistic, credible, existing and continuing threat of discrimination from the Defendants' non-compliance with the ADA with respect to this property as described, but not necessarily limited to, the allegations in paragraph 16 of this Complaint. Plaintiff has reasonable grounds to believe that he will continue to be subjected to discrimination in violations of the ADA by the Defendants.

24. Plaintiff is aware that it will be a futile gesture to re-visit the property until it becomes compliant with the ADA.

25. Plaintiff is without an adequate remedy at law and is suffering irreparable harm. Plaintiff has retained the undersigned counsel and is entitled to recover attorney's fees, costs and litigation expenses from the Defendant pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 12205 and 28 CFR 36.505.

26. Notice to Defendant is not required as a result of the Defendant's failure to cure the violations by January 26, 1992 (or January 26, 1993, if Defendant has 10

or fewer employees and gross receipts of \$500,000 or less). All other conditions precedent have been met by Plaintiffs or waived by the Defendant.

27. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 12188, this Court is provided with authority to grant Plaintiff Injunctive Relief, including an order to require the Defendant to make the property readily accessible and useable to the Plaintiff and all other persons with disabilities as defined by the ADA; or by closing the facility until such time as the Defendant cures its violations of the ADA.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court:

A. Declare that Defendant has violated title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12181 et seq, 28 C.F.R. pt. 36, Ga. Code Ann. §51-3-1, and GA. Code Ann. §51-1-6.

- i. by failing to bring Thunderbolt Convenience Store into compliance with the Standards where it is readily achievable to do so;
- ii. by failing to take other readily achievable measures to remove architectural barriers to access when it is not readily achievable to comply fully with the Standards.

B. Order Defendant:

- i. to make all readily achievable alterations to the facility; or to make such facility readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities to the extent required by the ADA;
- ii. to make reasonable modifications in policies, practices or procedures, when such modifications are necessary to afford all offered goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages or accommodations to individuals with disabilities.

C. Award attorney's fees, costs and litigation expenses pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 12205.

D. Award damages to Plaintiff.

E. Order such other appropriate relief as the interests of justice may require.

Respectfully Submitted,

By: /s/ Pete M. Monismith
Pete M. Monismith
Georgia Bar 941228
Attorney for Plaintiff
3945 Forbes Ave., #175
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
(tel) 724-610-1881
(fax) 412-258-1309
pete@monismithlaw.com